

HOUSE RESOLUTION 131

By Powers

A RESOLUTION to urge Congress to defund National Public Radio.

WHEREAS, the citizens of this nation take great pride in the country's founding and do not seek to fund organizations that have a habit of criticizing key documents or figures from this hallowed history; and

WHEREAS, one such document of great significance is the Declaration of Independence, approved by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, which sets forth the case and reasoning for the thirteen colonies to separate from Great Britain and create a new system of government that derived its powers from the consent of the governed; and

WHEREAS, on July 4, 2021, National Public Radio (NPR) posted a series of tweets concerning the Declaration of Independence and included criticism about portions of the document and the state of the country at the time of its founding; and

WHEREAS, these criticisms included statements that the Declaration of Independence is "a document with flaws and deeply ingrained hypocrisies"; and

WHEREAS, NPR made these criticisms as part of a broader pattern of creating increasingly divisive content focused on being politically correct and influencing the politics of this nation; and

WHEREAS, NPR receives annual grants directly from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, a nonprofit corporation created by Congress and funded by tax dollars from the citizens of this nation; and

WHEREAS, NPR has chosen to criticize and speak ill of one of the most significant founding documents of this nation; and

WHEREAS, it is not fitting to continue funding an entity that has become highly political and publicly criticized the nation's founding document on the anniversary of the nation's birth; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that this legislative body urges Congress to cease federal funding of National Public Radio in light of the organization's recent publications regarding the Declaration of Independence and its overall pattern of divisive, political content.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be transmitted to each member of the Tennessee Congressional Delegation.